

Amendments to the Claims:

1 (Currently Amended). A protective device for protecting ~~the hind legs~~ a hind leg of a horse, said horse having a front part and a rear part, said hind leg comprising a cannon with a rear part, a bended limb joint, a fetlock joint, a hoof, which comprises ~~said protective device comprising~~

- a rigid casing
- a padded lining
- retaining straps

~~this~~ the device being shaped to the rear part of the cannon and, when fastened in place, rising up to above the bend of the limb joint of said hind leg, the rigid casing bearing above the limb joint, against which ~~it~~ said rigid casing rests.

2 (Currently Amended). A protective device according to Claim 1, wherein a lower end of the protective device ~~protection~~ comprises comprising an articulated part corresponding to the fetlock joint of said hind leg.

3 (Currently Amended). A protective device according to claim 1, wherein a lower end of the protective device ~~protection~~ comprises, towards a part thereof oriented towards the front part of the horse the front, a widened part corresponding to a flare of the hoof.

4 (Currently Amended). A protective device according to claim 2, wherein a lower end of the protective device ~~protection~~ comprises, towards a part thereof oriented towards the front part of the horse the front, a widened part corresponding to a flare of the hoof.

5 (Currently Amended). A protective device according to claim 1, wherein the retaining straps that hold the protective device ~~protection~~ on are secured by being fastened to each other.

6 (Original). A protective device according to Claim 1, wherein the casing is made of flexible plastic.

7 (Currently Amended). A protective device according to Claim 1, wherein the rigid casing is made of fibre-reinforced polymer.

8 (Currently Amended). A protective device according to Claims 6, ~~wherein the materials of which it is made maintain their properties~~ which is made of materials being able to withstand variations in temperature in a temperature range of between -20 and +45°C.

9 (Currently Amended). A protective device according to Claims 7, ~~wherein the materials of which it is made maintain their properties~~ which is made of materials being able to withstand variations in temperature in a temperature range of between -20 and +45°C.

10 (Currently Amended). A protective device according to Claims 8, ~~wherein the materials of which it is made maintain their properties~~ which is made of materials being able to withstand variations in temperature in a temperature range of between -20 and +45°C.